



## Ryan White Title I HIV Health Services Planning Council

Donna Bryant, Chair  
1845 East Roosevelt Street  
Phoenix, AZ 85006  
(623) 247-4390 phone  
(623) 849-9410 fax  
sweetdbryant@msn.com

Planning Council Support  
1845 East Roosevelt Street  
Phoenix, AZ 85006  
(602) 506-6321 phone  
(602) 506-6885 fax  
brendahope@mail.maricopa.gov

### PLANNING COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Monday, April 12, 2004  
11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.  
HIV Care Directions  
1366 E. Thomas Rd.

**Approved**

*The following provides a written summary of the minutes recorded. To listen to the official recorded minutes, contact Planning Council Support. The tape(s) will be provided for review.*

#### MEMBERS, GUESTS and STAFF

Erica Avery	Debby Elliott	Michael Mangen	John Sapero
Kimberly Bickes	Randall Furrow	Mary McKeever	Larry Stähli
Freda Black	Miranda Graves	Eric Moore	Melissa Teasley
Donna Bryant	Brenda Hope	John Murray	Cynthia Trottier
Jean Cox	Barr Jenkins	David Paquette	John Wynant
Marti Cutler	Laura Kroger	Annette Quintana	
Lucio De La Rosa	Helen Lanche	James Reed	

#### Absent:

Elizabeth Ashby	Larry Fisher (ex)	Mark Kezios (ex)	Keith Thompson (ex)
Bob Bailey (ex)	Deborah Frusciano (ap)	Gregg Levendoski (ex)	Clarence Tucker
Michelle Barker (ex)	Damon Gunn (ex)	Stephen O'Dell (ex)	Jonathan Weisbuch (ap)
Robert Bartlett Sr.	Keith Hendricks	Reginald Robinson (ex)	Carol Williams (ex)
Yadira De La Rosa (ex)	Robert Horton (ex)	Louie Tapia (ex)	

*(ex = excused absence, ap = absent, alternate present)*

#### WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Donna Bryant thanked everyone for coming to the "emergency" Planning Council meeting. Although quorum was not present, it was decided that the group would proceed with the introductions, and the floor would be open for discussion.

Donna noted that the Administrative Agent has requested to be added to the agenda to give an administrative update. With no objections, an Administrative Update was added to the agenda.

Members, guest, and staff introduced themselves.

#### ADMINISTRATIVE AGENT UPDATE

David Paquette gave the following update:

- Copies of an article written by Dr. Carmichael, an HIV doctor in Tucson, are provided. The article contains perspectives on many issues Planning Councils are wrestling with right now.

- Copies of an article from a Palm Springs newspaper, which discusses preparations underway in response to funding cuts in the San Diego EMA, were also provided.
- Copies of the latest Consumer Guide are available. A schedule for distributing the guide has been developed, and all service agencies will be getting copies. If you are not on the distribution list, you can request copies of the guide.

David noted that he was not at the last Allocations Committee meeting, that he understood that he and his group were discussed extensively, and that he did listen to the taped meeting minutes. David reported that the tone of the Allocations Committee meeting was angry, loud, and unprofessional, with words he had not heard in a long time. He further indicated that most of the discussion was not discussion, but accusations not to be confused with actual knowledge or information.

David provided other comments regarding his feelings about the Allocations Committee meeting.

Other individuals provided comments.

#### **CHAIR UPDATE**

Donna Bryant updated participants regarding the purpose of the meeting, which was a proposed change to the definition of the Emergency/Financial Services category.

#### **ALLOCATIONS PRESENTATION – PROPOSED SERVICE DEFINITION**

Larry Stähli related that at the April 6, 2004 meeting, the Allocations Committee was addressed by a Title I client who followed the procedures in order to receive funds for needed dental services for her child, who is also a Title I client. Doctors at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) deemed the orthodontia services to be medically necessary. The request for emergency assistance was denied, as was the appeal.

In order to address this identified gap in services, the Allocations Committee proposes changing the service category definition for Emergency/Financial Assistance to include the following language:

Also includes fees for dental services, including orthodontics for youth and children as medically indicated. These dental services must be HIV/AIDS related, not cosmetic in nature, and medically necessary.

Donna added that, in speaking with the Administrative Agent on April 9, 2004, David Paquette indicated that he has never seen an appeal by the client through this entire process. Donna questioned whether the Committee reacted appropriately, but indicated that when a client comes before Council members and indicates there is a problem with a service definition, it is a valid issue.

Donna noted that the definition for Dental Services does not cover orthodontics, which was the problem for this particular client. The definition does state, "Provides benefits including co-pay or deductible portion of an eligible insured's medical and/or dental bills . . ." but the financial assistance requested was not for a "co-pay".

David Paquette explained that changing the Dental Services definition to cover orthodontia would involve modifying the contract, which would be very expensive. Donna noted that

changing the definition of Emergency/Financial Services would benefit this client, as well as other eligible children and youth who are having problems related to aging and HIV disease.

There was further discussion regarding this issue. Debby Elliott provided clarification, indicating that initial request for emergency assistance and the appeal had been denied. Debby reported that when she contacted the Administrative Agent's office regarding the next steps to take in this process, she was informed that the next step would be to bring this issue to the Planning Council and the Allocations Committee, so that the definition could be revised.

It was established that quorum was present.

John Wynant motioned to accept the addition to the Emergency/Financial Services category definition, as proposed by the Allocations Committee. Larry Stähli seconded the motion.

Donna asked whether this was an isolated incident for "women, infants, children and youth (WICY)", or whether this was a bigger service problem.

David Paquette explained that, according to the law, WICY have to be served (at minimum) in proportion to their place in the epidemic. It was indicated that the requirement is met each year.

John Murray indicated that the Planning Council should be proactive in addressing issues that do not commonly arise.

Debby Elliott suggested inviting pediatric practitioners to participate in a discussion relating to potential health issues for children and youth, as they get older.

Melissa Teasley shared information regarding service needs of women and youth, and offered suggestions for improving services.

Kimberly Bickes made a friendly amendment to change the wording to "medically necessary, with appropriate documentation from medical providers, i.e., physicians, dentists and orthodontists". Both John Wynant and Larry Stähli accepted the amendment.

OUTCOME: The motion passed unanimously.

#### **CALL TO THE PUBLIC**

- Eric Moore announced that the Rules Committee meeting scheduled for April 21, 2004 would be rescheduled.
- Donna thanked everyone for coming to the meeting.

#### **ADJOURN**

The meeting adjourned.